

# key facts

- Between January 1, 2003 and March 31, 2003, Michigan Medicaid beneficiaries will receive a permanent plastic ID **mihealth card**.
- Beneficiaries will no longer receive monthly paper ID cards after April 1, 2003.
- Possession of the **mihealth card** does not guarantee Michigan Medicaid eligibility.
- Providers must still verify eligibility before services are provided.

# what you must know

- Change is coming — January 1, 2003
- The **mihealth card** is a technology upgrade, not a policy change
- The **mihealth card** gives you more options to choose from

## need more information?

The **mihealth card** for Medicaid

[www.mihealth.org](http://www.mihealth.org)

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Michigan Department of Community Health

[www.michigan.gov/mdch](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch)

[providersupport@michigan.gov](mailto:providersupport@michigan.gov)

Provider Inquiry Line — Providers Only  
1-800-292-2550

Provider Inquiry  
P.O. Box 30479  
Lansing, MI 48909-7979

Beneficiary Helpline — Beneficiaries Only  
1-800-642-3195



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introducing the  
**mihealth card**  
for Michigan Medicaid



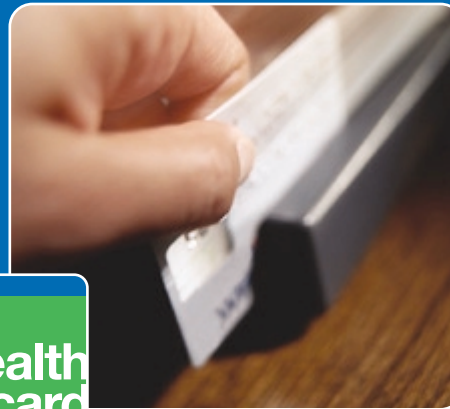
Access eligibility instantly.

Take advantage of more options.

Save time and effort.

coming  
**january**  
**1st 2003**

# what is the mihealth card?



## The only card you'll need

Michigan Medicaid will begin replacing its current paper beneficiary identification card with the **mihealth card**, a plastic magnetic stripe identification card.



## How the mihealth card works

The **mihealth card** uses the same technology used for credit cards. Magnetic swipe technology allows providers access to up-to-date beneficiary eligibility information. Many other state Medicaid programs already use magnetically encoded cards like the **mihealth card** for their beneficiaries. Card readers and software are available through Medifax EDI, Inc., our official eligibility verification vendor.

## More ways to verify eligibility

The **mihealth card** is the newest way to access Michigan Medicaid's Eligibility Verification System. This is a technology upgrade and none of the current eligibility verification methods will be eliminated. Additionally, Michigan Medicaid has upgraded the Automated Voice Response System with faxed back eligibility responses.

## The mihealth card is cost effective

Michigan Medicaid will save substantial resources by not printing and mailing new eligibility cards each month. Switching to plastic cards has reduced administrative costs for other states' Medicaid programs. In addition, fewer cards are lost or stolen.

# provider benefits

- 1 Increases the number of options for checking eligibility
- 2 Using magnetic swipe technology reduces data input errors
- 3 Checking eligibility is easier and quicker using magnetic swipe technology
- 4 24-hour eligibility and access to information with hard copy responses in seconds

## more options to choose from

- Phone-based — Automated Voice Response System with new faxed back eligibility responses
- Internet-based — magnetic strip reader attaches to your computer to provide swipe technology
- Point of Service device (P.O.S. swipe reader)
- Integrated Solutions — for provider networks
- Please call Medifax EDI, Inc. at 1-800-819-5003 for details